

A PAIR OF HEROES

by

Joseph Arnone

Copyright © 2018 MonologueBlogger.com All rights reserved.

INT. BELLA'S HOME - AFTERNOON

BELLA (60's) walks into her home with her best friend
HANNAH (60's).

BELLA

Put that old greasy bastard in
check next time you---(noticing
her rug in the living room) what
in the he--what in God's glorious
name did---(she sees Greggie)
WHERE is Bushy?

GREGGIE (NERVOUSLY)

He in the weeds.

BELLA

Now you go get that boys ass out
them weeds this instant. Talking
'bout setting my rug on fire. I'm
a bust his ass!

GREGGIE

I get 'em. I get 'em now fo ya but
he scared a what he done.

BELLA

What he done? Burnt my rug to ash!
How he do such a thang?

GREGGIE

We was playing soldiers and he let
off a grenade with umm, matches
and umm, yeah just matches.

BELLA

He did what?

GREGGIE

He threw the match there at the
enemy and that's when things catch
fire and ummm--

BELLA

Greggie?

GREGGIE

Mmm-hmm?

BELLA

Go get that boy before I kill you
where you stand...

Greggie runs out the back porch doors.

(to Hannah) Hannah, I'm done had it. I'm a crack that boy as hard as I can upside his empty head---

HANNAH

Now, now, Bella dear, they just boys.

BELLA

Boys?! Don't you be taking his part. Not today girl, not today.

HANNAH

You goin' on like that rug come from Africa. That rug four dollars and thirty-five cents Bell. They about two hundred more in the store.

BELLA

Don't give me that. Don't you see this ain't just about the rug? Rug was much more than that by the way. Where is that boy?! (walks to porch doorway) Greggie?! Bushy, I'm a bust yo ass. The longer you take the more it gonna hurt son. Now get yo--

BUSHY

I'm right here Gramma.

BELLA

What I tell you 'bout sneaking up on me like that? I'm old! WHAT did you do to my rug?

BUSHY

What rug?

BELLA

Boy, you see that square black stain center of my living room?

BUSHY

Yes.

BELLA

That used to be where the rug lay.

BUSHY

Okay.

BELLA

As you see it has gone up in flame. (beat) Why did my rug go up in flame?

BUSHY

I ain't know nothing about it.

BELLA

Boy. Don't you lie to me.

BUSHY

I ain't burn your rug Gramma.

BELLA

Wheeeewww Lordy. I am gettin' hot up in here boy oh---I'm about to get possessed by my dark spirit. You tell me the truth this instant before I go demon on yo ass! What happened to my rug?

BUSHY

Greggie lit a match and threw it at my soldier and then the rug when up in flames Gramma. I'm sorry.

BELLA

Greggie?! Greggie tell me YOU the one who threw the match.

BUSHY

No, it was Greggie threw the match.

Bella throws a look at Hannah.

HANNAH

Now Bella, just stay calm, we just come back from Sunday mass.

BELLA (SOFTLY)

Go get Greggie.

BUSHY

He in the weeds hiding.

BELLA

Go get Greggie!!

Bushy runs out the porch.
Somebody be lying up in here!

HANNAH

Now, now, they both scared stiff.

BELLA

I'm a give them something to be scared of, tell you that.

HANNAH

Just talk calmly, be calm, if you calm they tell you the truth is all.

BELLA

Did you see it?

HANNAH

See what dear?

BELLA

My eyes went crossed. I got so angry felt my eyes cross.

HANNAH

Honey, you want some water? Shot a Jameson?

BELLA

Water, please. Thank you. (beat)
Them two boys taking way too long.

HANNAH (FROM KITCHEN)

They gotta come home sooner or later.

BELLA

This is what I get for watching my daughters kids. I'm too old for this.

Hannah brings water to Bella.

Thanks Hannah. (downs glass of water and hands it back)

Bella walks over to the porch doors.

BELLA (CONT'D)

You two boys ain't here in half a minute, I'm coming out to them weeds myself and that the last thing you want me to do!!

HANNAH

Why don't you take a seat and breathe.

Bella sits.

I'm fine. I can't stand
recklessness. Carelessness. They
old enough to not be so, so, so---

HANNAH (CONT'D)

Negligent.

BELLA

Ewww, that's a good word. I like
that. Negligent.

Greggie and Bushy come into the living room.
There, there, there. Now. You both
be blaming one another and I want
the real man to step forward and
speak the truth. Who's responsible
for burning my rug?

Same time.

GREGGIE

It was me.

BUSHY

It was me.

BELLA

Look what we have here. A pair of
heroe's. Each one claiming that he
did it in order to not be the one
caught. I see. Very slick boys.
Clever game. Well, since you both
are so heroic, you both will take
the punishment. I want you both to
go upstairs to your room so I can
think long and hard about how I'm
gonna best serve your punishment.
As of now, there won't be any
dinner tonight. When you are both
ready to tell me the truth, I am
ready to hear it. Now go upstairs.

Both Greggie and Bushy go upstairs.

HANNAH

You handled that well.

BELLA

I'll take that Jameson now.